

Message Text

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14
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 IO-13 SAJ-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00

STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 ACDA-07 IGA-02 /107 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9091
INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 15061

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SW, CU, UR
SUBJ: SWEDISH ASSISTANCE TO CUBA

REF: STOCKHOLM 5243

1. WITH REGARD TO LAST SENTENCE PARA 3 REFTEL, NEW SWEDISH COMMERICAL COUNSELOR IN COURTESY CALL SEPT 23 ON E/C COUNSELOR REMARKED THAT SWEDISH EMBASSY HAD BEEN ASKED BY SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR COMMENTS ON PROBABLE FUTURE LINES OF SWEDISH FOREIGN POLICY. SWEDES HAD ASSURED SOVIETS THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE IN SWEDISH POLICY, EXCEPT THAT AID TO CUBA WOULD BE REDUCED. ACCORDING TO COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR SOVIETS DID NOT REACT STRONGLY TO THIS NEWS.

2. IN SUBSEQUENT SEPARATE CONVERSATION, SWEDISH MINISTER TOLD E/C COUNSELOR THAT SWEDISH EMBASSY HAD INFORMED USSR THAT FOREIGN POLICY OF NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT CHANGE. ASKED IF SUBJECT OF CUBA HAD COME UP, MINISTER REPLIED THAT IT HAD AND THAT HE HAD BEEN PERSONALLY INVOLVED. HE SAID SOVIETS WERE TOLD THAT SWEDES WOULD NOT REDUCE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, BUT WOULD DIVIDE IT DIFFERENTLY; CUBA'S SHARE WOULD BE REDUCED. MINISTER STATED THAT CUBA COULD NOT REALLY BE REGARDED AS DEVELOPING COUNTRY. HE CONFIRMED REPORT THAT SOVIET RESPONSE
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HAD BEEN MILD TO THIS NEWS AND VENTURED AS HIS OPINION THAT

USSR WOULD PREFER THAT SWEDEN NOT BE PROMINENT IN
AIDING CUBA, SO THAT CUBA'S DEPENDENCE ON COMMUNIST COUNTRIES
WOULD BE EVEN GREATER. PLEASE PROTECT ABOVE SOURCES.

3. COMMENT: NEITHER COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR NOR MINISTER
MENTIONED ANY INSTRUCTIONS TO TAKE THIS LINE WITH SOVIETS
ON CUBA, BUT THEY DID NOT QUALIFY COMMENTS ABOUT REDUCED
AID.
MATLOCK

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